THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Fantastic Four
WHERE SOARS THE SILVER SURFER!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
72 MAR

SKIN SURFACE DISFIGURED BY PIMPLES? BLACKHEADS? FRECKLES?

Blemishes Fade As Skin Clears

AMAZING NEW SKIN CREAM SO POWERFUL IT STARTS HELPING TO CLEAR EPIDERMIS THE INSTANT APPLIED!

Works with Nature Replacing Epidermis Marked by Surface Pimples and Blackheads with a New Fresh, Clearer, Softer, Smoother Complexion!

It takes POWER to dry up pimples . . . to loosen blackheads . . . to fade freckles . . . to clear away blemished epidermis (skin surface). So why mess around with watery lotions, weak medicated make-ups . . . smelly salves and greasy ointments when it's FAYD SKIN CREAM that you need. Fayd contains a powerful clearing and skin whitening discovery that works strong and fast on the externally caused pimples, blackheads, blemishes, marks, freckles and spots that blot and dot the top skin layer. In 7 days Fayd may make your complexion so much more clear, fair and blemish free you want to jump for happiness. Fayd makes the skin softer, smoother and more glowing with the fresh new look of youth. And occasional use of Fayd helps keep your skin looking more lovely everyday to your pride and joy.

JUST TRY FOR 7 NIGHTS

FOLLOW EASY DIRECTIONS

Read booklet and do exactly as it says. It's easy . . . and so rewarding!

SPREAD ON THIN FILM

Just apply over face, or neck affected area for 7 nights . . .

WORKS WHILE YOU SLEEP

Then see amazing, clear results or return for your money back!

SEND FOR YOUR DEMONSTRATION TODAY

If the pimple cream you are using works too slow, don't wait but send for Fayd Skin Cream. Let this actual home demonstration show you what Fayd is . . . how it works fast . . . and why so many boys, girls, men and women use it, for outbreaks . . . for freckles . . . for lightening, brightening and clearing the skin. Fayd acts on both oily skin areas around the nose and also on dry skin areas. It refines enlarged pores. Helps stop many new blemishes before they start. So take advantage of this amazing home demonstration offer. Mail the coupon today.

THE FLEETWOOD CO. Dept. D-88
427 W. Randolph St.
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Send the 3 oz. jar of FAYD SKIN CREAM as checked below. As advertised, you guarantee I can return the empty jar at any time and you will refund my purchase price.

☐ $3.00 enclosed. Send postage paid.

☐ Enclosed is $1.00 deposit. Send C.O.D. for balance of $2.00 plus postage.

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Address____________________

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Fayd, called by many "nature's clear skin cream", is pure white and won't stain pillows. Delightful, easy, it has no medicated odor, washes off completely, leaves skin feeling so new that make-up looks far more natural . . . if you need make-up at all! For your trial and approval we offer the full size 3 oz. jar Fayd for only $3.00 full price postpaid. Use the entire supply and then if you aren't satisfied, simply return the empty jar for your money back. Accept this test at our risk offer. Clip the coupon, and mail today.

IMPORTANT

If the coupon has already been clipped, send order with your name and address. Ask for Fayd's $3.00 Trial Offer. Mail to Fleetwood Co., Dept. D-88, 427 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Illinois 60606.

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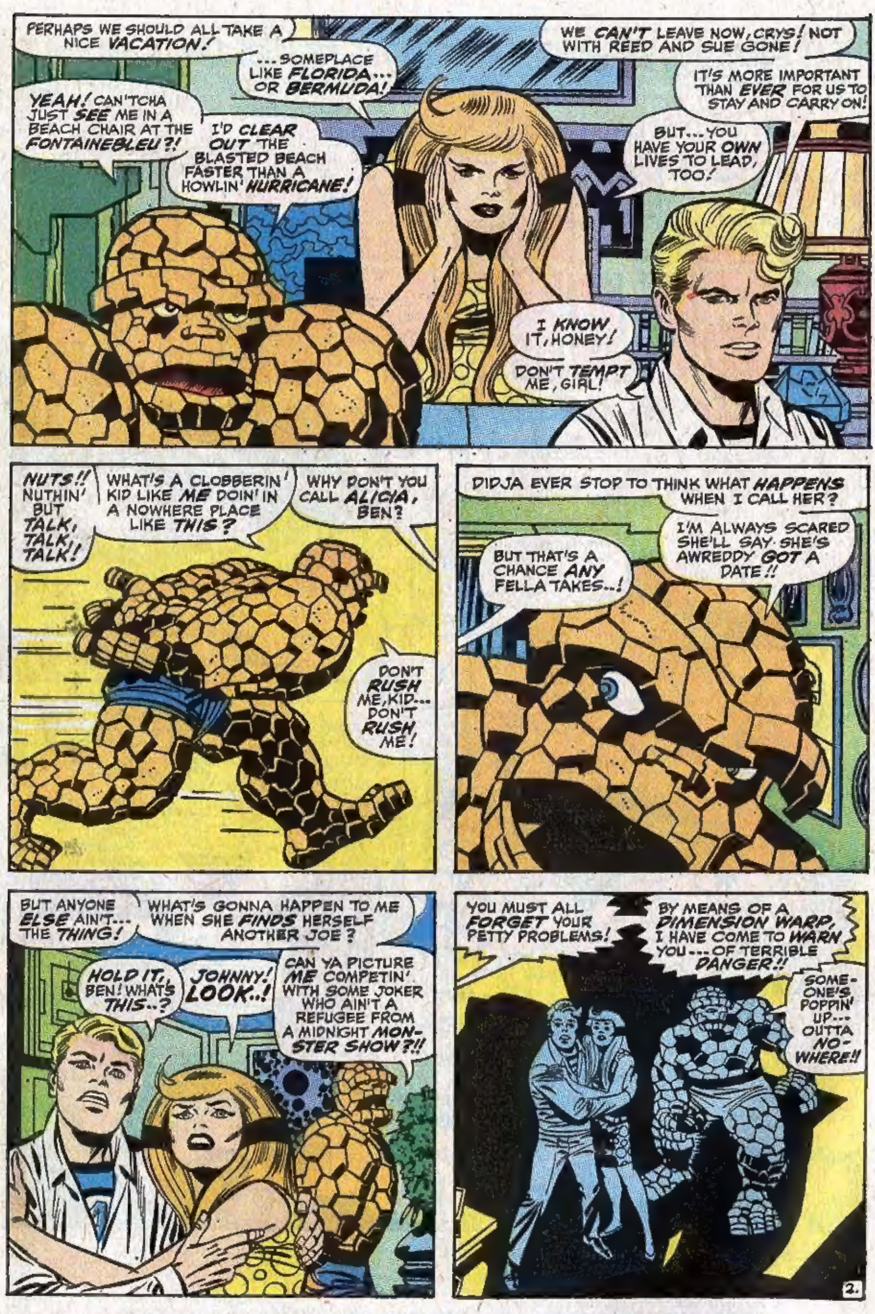
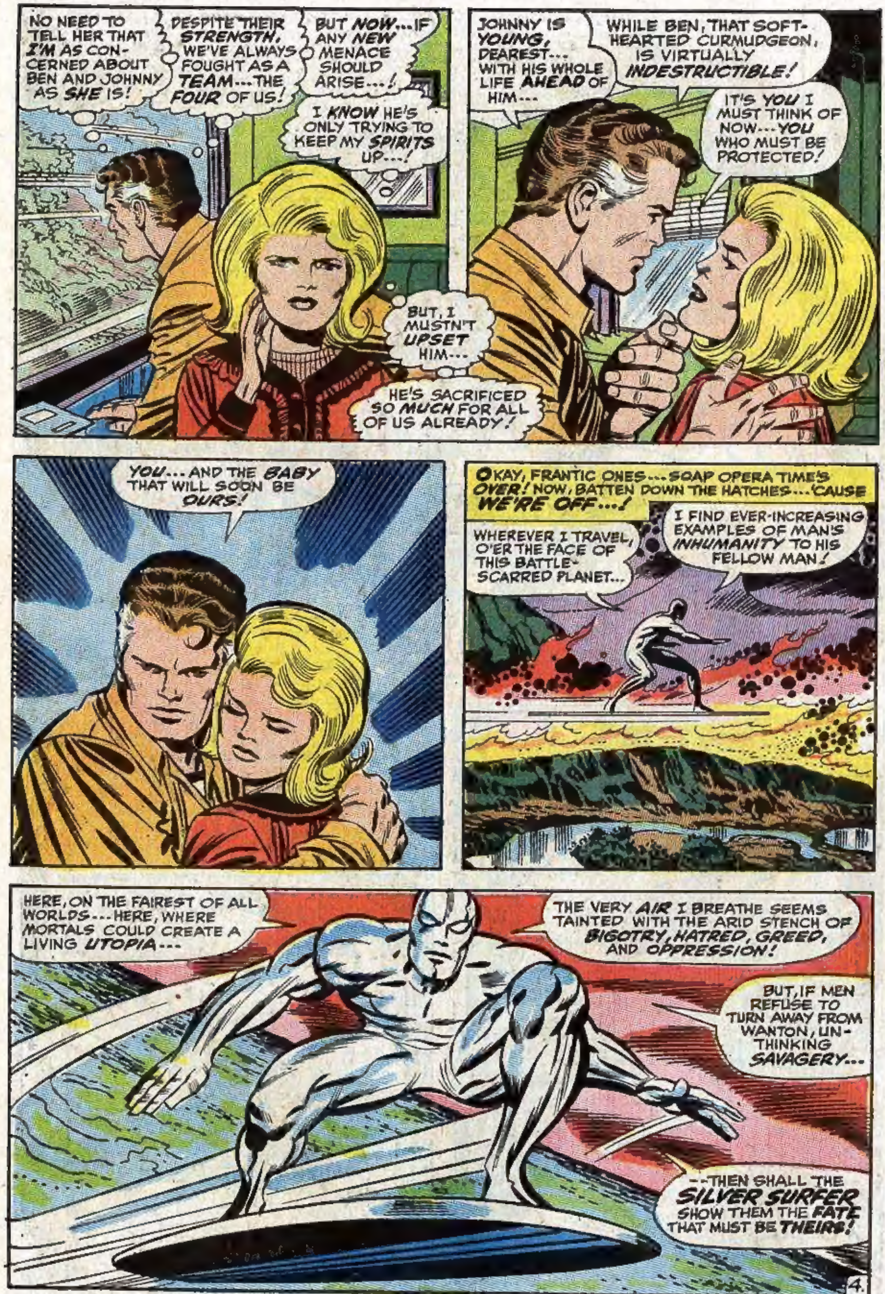

PERHAPS WE SHOULD ALL TAKE A NICE VACATION!
...SOMEPLACE LIKE FLORIDA... OR BERMUDA!
YEAH! CAN'TCHA JUST SEE ME IN A BEACH CHAIR AT THE FONTAINEBLEU?!
I'D CLEAR OUT THE BLASTED BEACH FASTER THAN A HOWLIN' HURRICANE!
WE CAN'T LEAVE NOW, CRYS! NOT WITH REED AND SUE GONE!
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER FOR US TO STAY AND CARRY ON!
BUT... YOU HAVE YOUR OWN LIVES TO LEAD, TOO!
I KNOW IT, HONEY!
DON'T TEMPT ME, GIRL!
NUTS!! NUTHIN' BUT TALK, TALK, TALK!
WHAT'S A CLOBBERIN' KID LIKE ME DOIN' IN A NOWHERE PLACE LIKE THIS?
WHY DON'T YOU CALL ALICIA, BEN?
DON'T RUSH ME, KID... DON'T RUSH ME!
DIDJA EVER STOP TO THINK WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I CALL HER?
I'M ALWAYS SCARED SHE'LL SAY SHE'S AWREDDY GOT A DATE!!
BUT THAT'S A CHANCE ANY FELLA TAKES...!
BUT ANYONE ELSE AIN'T... THE THING!
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME WHEN SHE FINDS HERSELF ANOTHER JOE?
CAN YA PICTURE ME COMPETIN' WITH SOME JOKER WHO AIN'T A REFUGEE FROM A MIDNIGHT MONSTER SHOW?!!
HOLD IT, BEN! WHAT'S THIS..?
JOHNNY! LOOK..!
YOU MUST ALL FORGET YOUR PETTY PROBLEMS!
BY MEANS OF A DIMENSION WARP, I HAVE COME TO WARN YOU --- OF TERRIBLE DANGER!!
SOMEONE'S POPPIN' UP... OUTTA NOWHERE!!
2.

SURELY YOU REMEMBER... THE WATCHER!
THOUGH I AM PLEDGED NEVER TO MEDDLE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER PLANETS... THERE IS SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW!
THE SUPREMELY-POWERFUL SILVER SURFER IS ABOUT TO ATTACK ALL OF MANKIND!!
THE SURFER!!
BUT...HE'S PRACTICALLY... INVINCIBLE!!
BUCKLE YER SEAT BELTS, KIDDIES!
HERE WE GO AGAIN!
BUT YOU CAN'T BATTLE SO MIGHTY A FOE...
WHEN YOU HAVE LOST HALF OF YOUR TEAM!
AND, SPEAKING OF THE OTHER HALF OF THE WORLD-FAMED FANTASTIC FOUR... LET'S VISIT A CALIFORNIA-BOUND TRANSCONTINENTAL EXPRESS...
HOW WILL THE OTHERS GET ALONG WITHOUT US, DARLING?
I TOLD YOU NOT EVEN TO THINK OF THAT, SUE!
ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS YOUR WELFARE... AND THAT OF... THE BABY!
DON'T FORGET, HONEY... BEN GRIMM IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL LIVING BEINGS!
AND THE HUMAN TORCH ISN'T EXACTLY LACKING IN SUPER-POWER HIMSELF!
BUT, SO LONG AS WE'RE AWAITING THE BABY, IT'S YOU WHO ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE!
WE'VE GOT TO BE CERTAIN THAT NO DEADLY ARCH-ENEMY TRIES TO STRIKE AT US... BY MENACING MY WIFE!
NOW LET'S FORGET ABOUT SUCH SORDID THINGS... AND START ENJOYING THE SCENERY!
3.



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MORE TRIUMPHS FOR MARVEL..!
THE MIGHTY THOR
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"WHEN FALLS A HERO!"
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
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TO KILL A SPIDER-MAN!
WOW! LOOK WHO'S BACK!

Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education

Shamed by Your English?

You can soon speak and write like a college graduate if you let me help you for 15 minutes a day.

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I have met countless numbers of intelligent men and women who are being held back in their jobs and social lives, often without knowing it, because they cannot express themselves fully and easily.

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If people are not impressed by the way you speak and write—and if you're honest enough with yourself to admit it—you have already taken the first big step to success.

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Question: *What is so important about my ability to speak and write?*

Answer: People judge you by the way you speak and write, both in business and in social life.

Question: *What does a "command of good English" mean?*

Answer: It means you can express yourself clearly and easily without fear of embarrassment or making mistakes.

Question: *Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?*

Answer: Yes! Words are actually "tools of thought." The more you learn about words and how to use them to form and express your ideas, the better your *thinking* becomes.

Question: *Wouldn't I have to go back to school for a command of good English?*

Answer: No, not any more. You can gain the ability to speak and write like a college graduate right in your own home in only 15 minutes each day.

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Answer: There are thousands of letters in my files, testimonials from people in all walks of life who have used the proved Career Institute Method to achieve amazing results. If you send in the coupon below, I will share some of these letters with you.

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Answer: I will gladly mail a free 32-page booklet to you. Just send a postcard or fill out and mail the coupon.

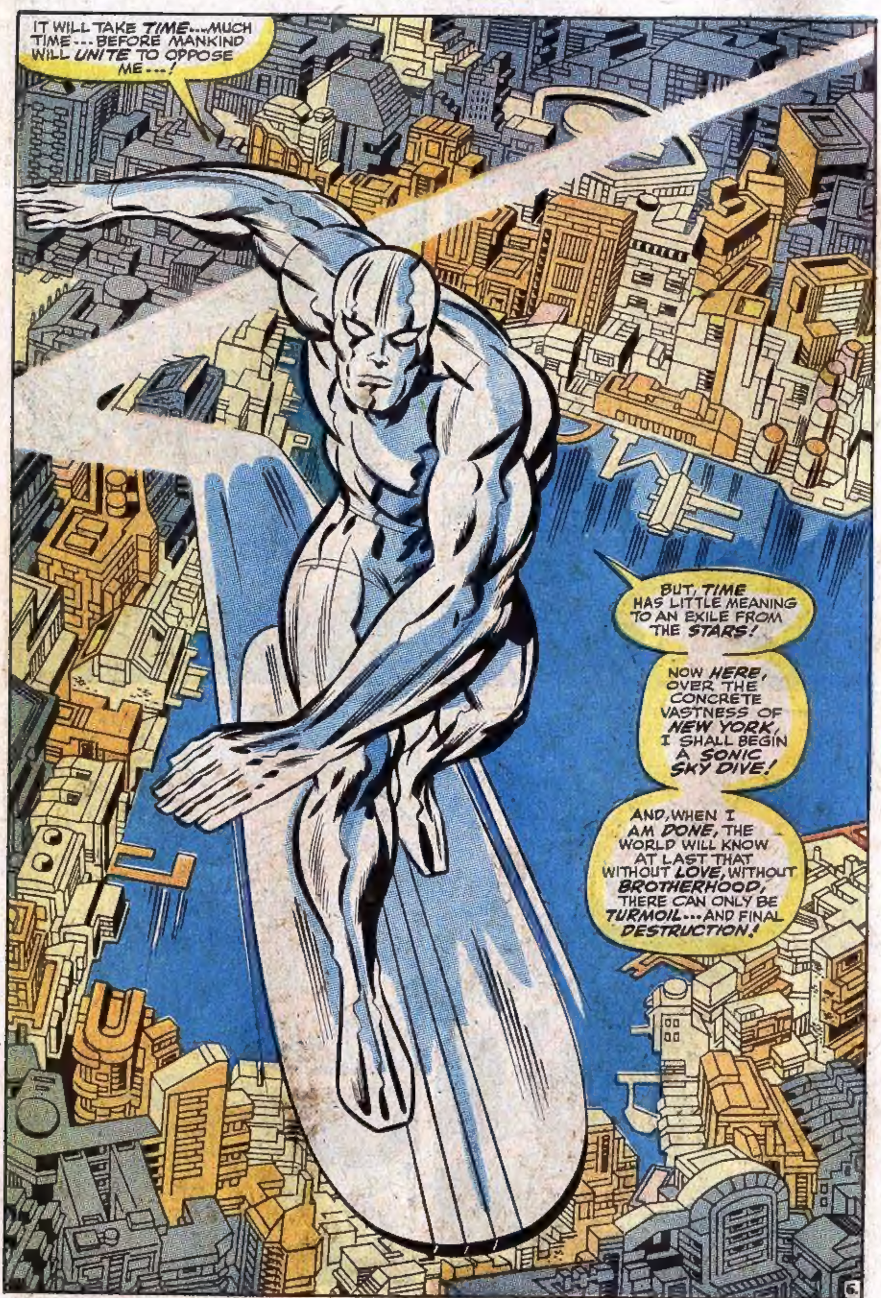
DON BOLANDER, Dept. 208-18
Career Institute, 555 E. Lange Street, Mundelein, Ill. 60060
Please mail me a free copy of your 32-page **booklet,** "How to Gain a Command of Good **English.**"

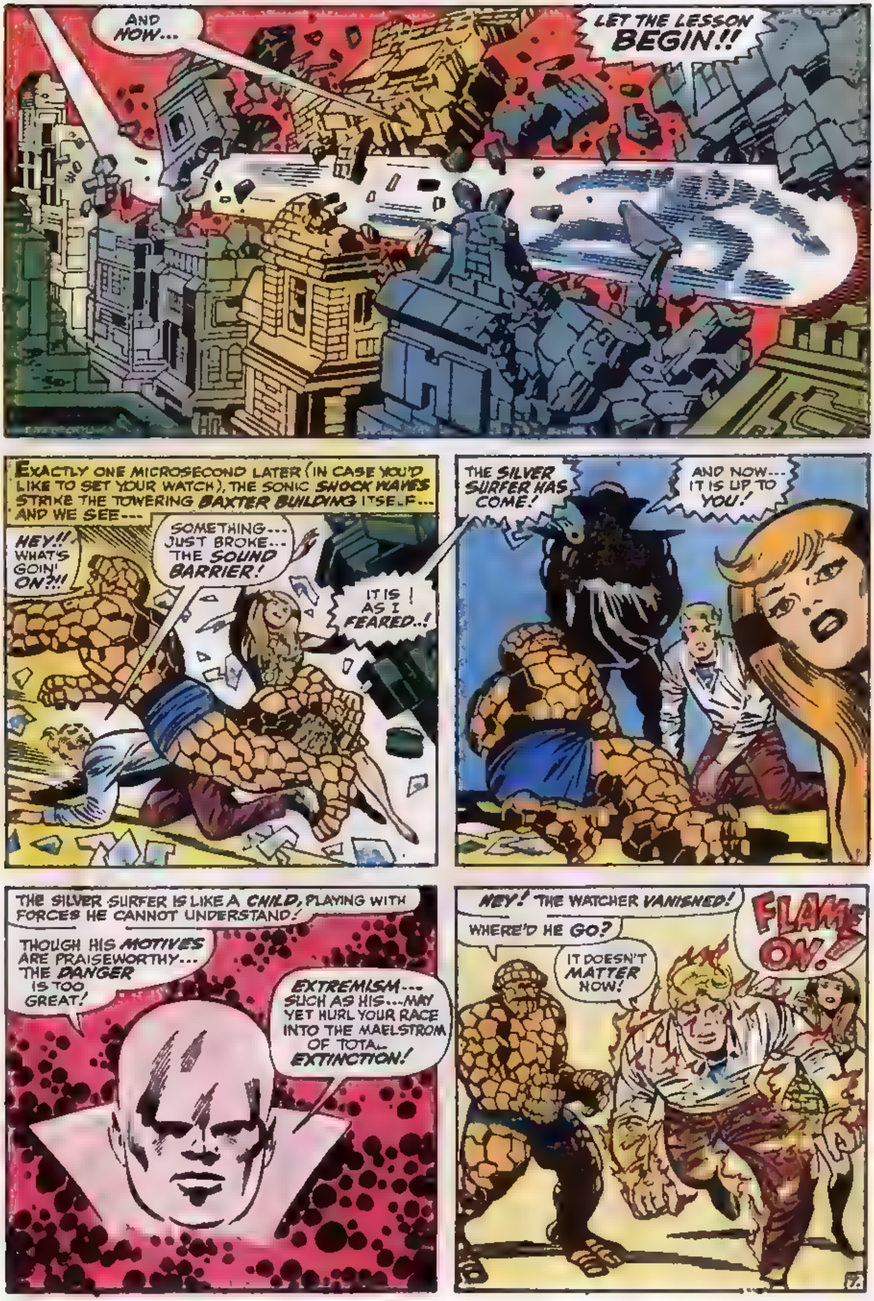
Name____________________

Street____________________

City__________ State________ Zip Code______

THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE THEM CEASE THEIR CONSTANT WARRING IS TO PROVIDE FOR THEM A COMMON FOE!
LET THEM UNITE... TO BATTLE ME... THE ULTIMATE ENEMY!
NO NATION-- NO CONTINENT-- SHALL BE SPARED THE ATTACK OF THE SILVER SURFER!
FOR, MY COSMIC POWER CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!!
IT CAN CAUSE VEGETATION TO GROW MADLY... WILDLY...
SNARLING VILLAGES, TOWNS, AND CITIES!
I CAN CAUSE THE SEAS THEMSELVES TO RISE IN MOUNTAINOUS FURY...
TILL NONE WHO LIVE WILL DARE TO SAIL THEM!!
NOT EVEN THE ETERNAL PYRAMIDS WILL ESCAPE MY DE-GRAVITY THRUST!!
5


IT WILL TAKE TIME...MUCH TIME... BEFORE MANKIND WILL UNITE TO OPPOSE ME...!
BUT, TIME HAS LITTLE MEANING TO AN EXILE FROM THE STARS!
NOW HERE, OVER THE CONCRETE VASTNESS OF NEW YORK, I SHALL BEGIN A SONIC SKY DIVE!
AND, WHEN I AM DONE, THE WORLD WILL KNOW AT LAST THAT WITHOUT LOVE, WITHOUT BROTHERHOOD, THERE CAN ONLY BE TURMOIL...AND FINAL DESTRUCTION!
6



AND NOW...
LET THE LESSON BEGIN!!
EXACTLY ONE MICROSECOND LATER (IN CASE YOU'D LIKE TO SET YOUR WATCH), THE SONIC SHOCK WAVES STRIKE THE TOWERING BAXTER BUILDING ITSELF... AND WE SEE---
HEY!! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?!!
SOMETHING... JUST BROKE... THE SOUND BARRIER!
IT IS! AS I FEARED..!
THE SILVER SURFER HAS COME!
AND NOW--- IT IS UP TO YOU!
THE SILVER SURFER IS LIKE A CHILD, PLAYING WITH FORCES HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND!
THOUGH HIS MOTIVES ARE PRAISEWORTHY... THE DANGER IS TOO GREAT!
EXTREMISM--- SUCH AS HIS...MAY YET HURL YOUR RACE INTO THE MAELSTROM OF TOTAL EXTINCTION!
HEY! THE WATCHER VANISHED!
WHERE'D HE GO?
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW!
FLAME ON!
7

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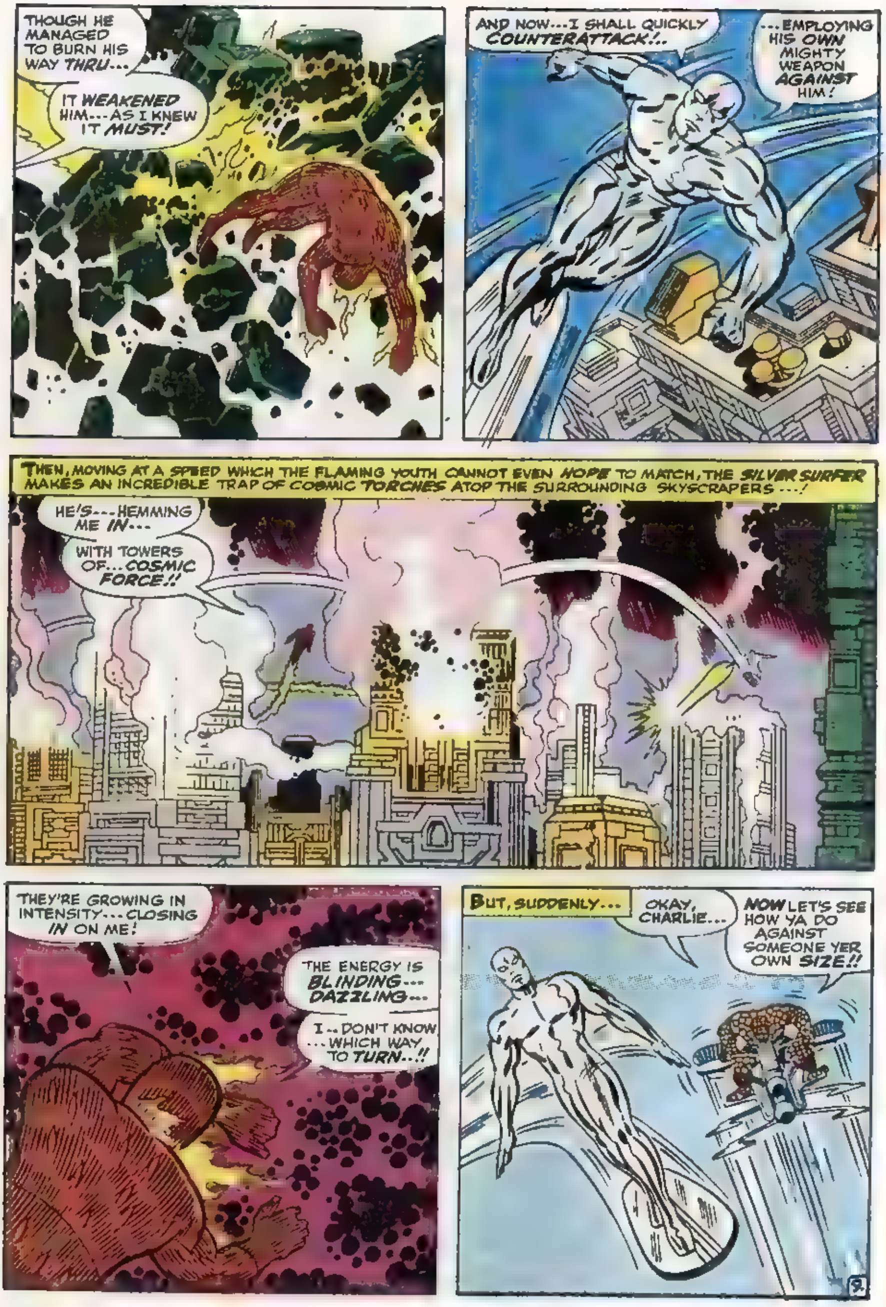
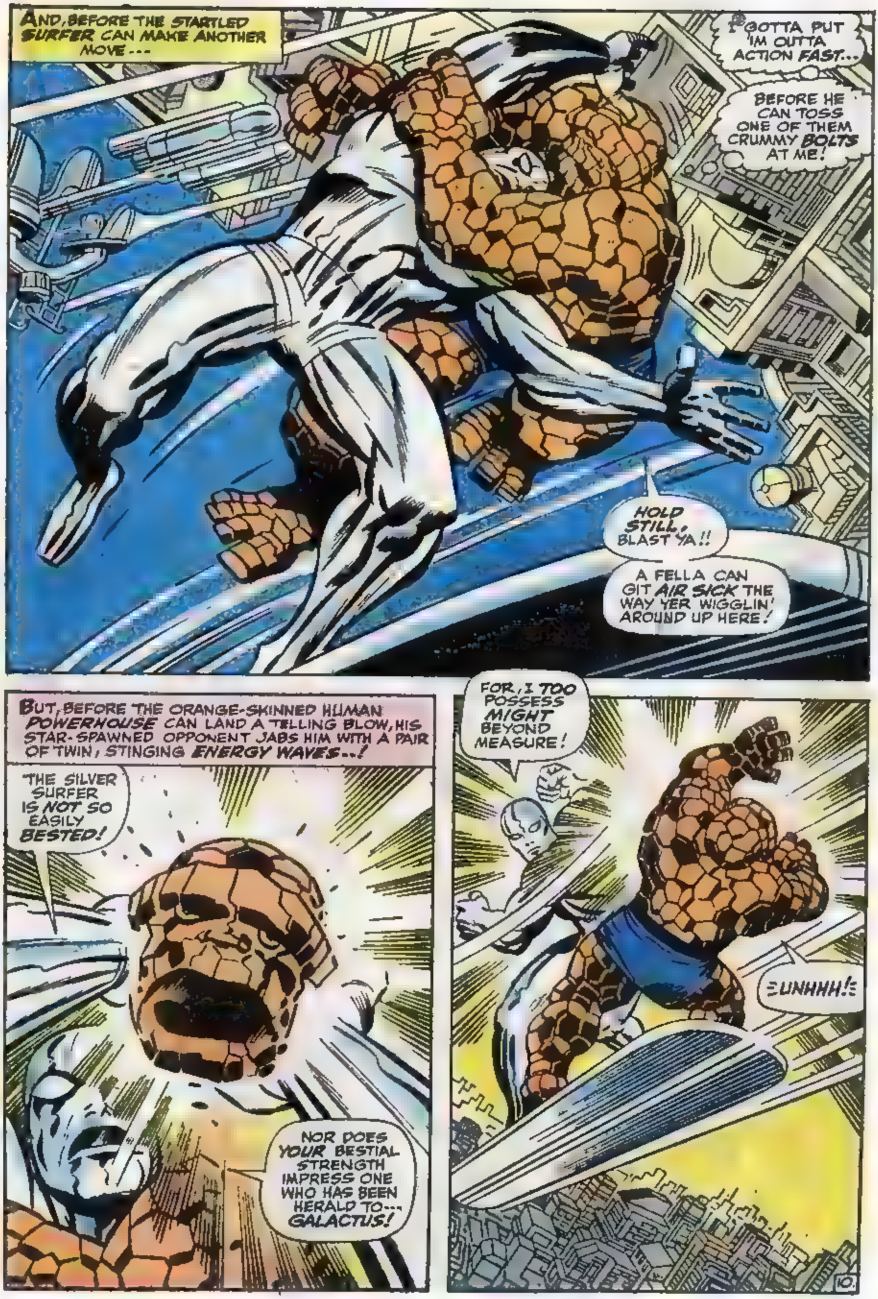
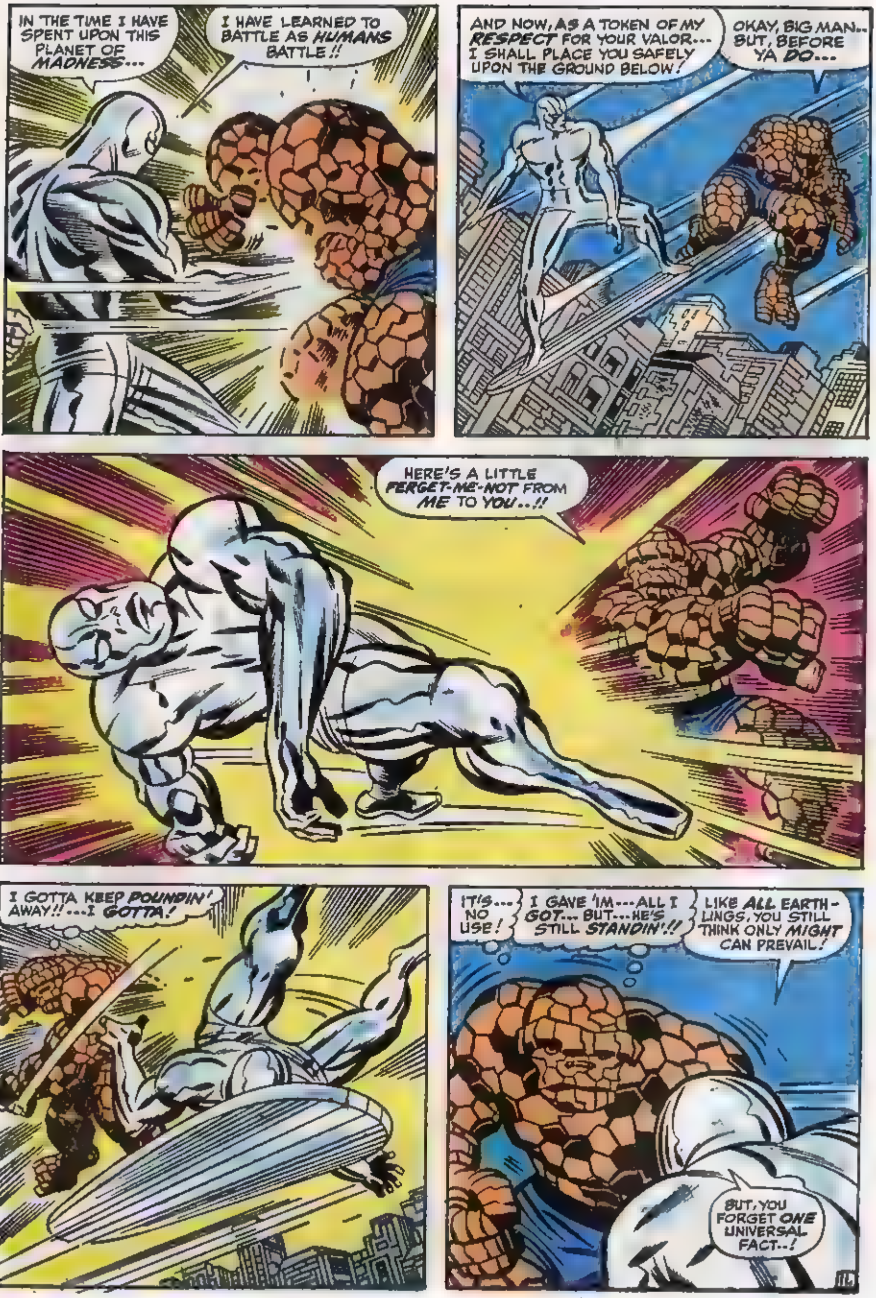
City_______________ State_______________

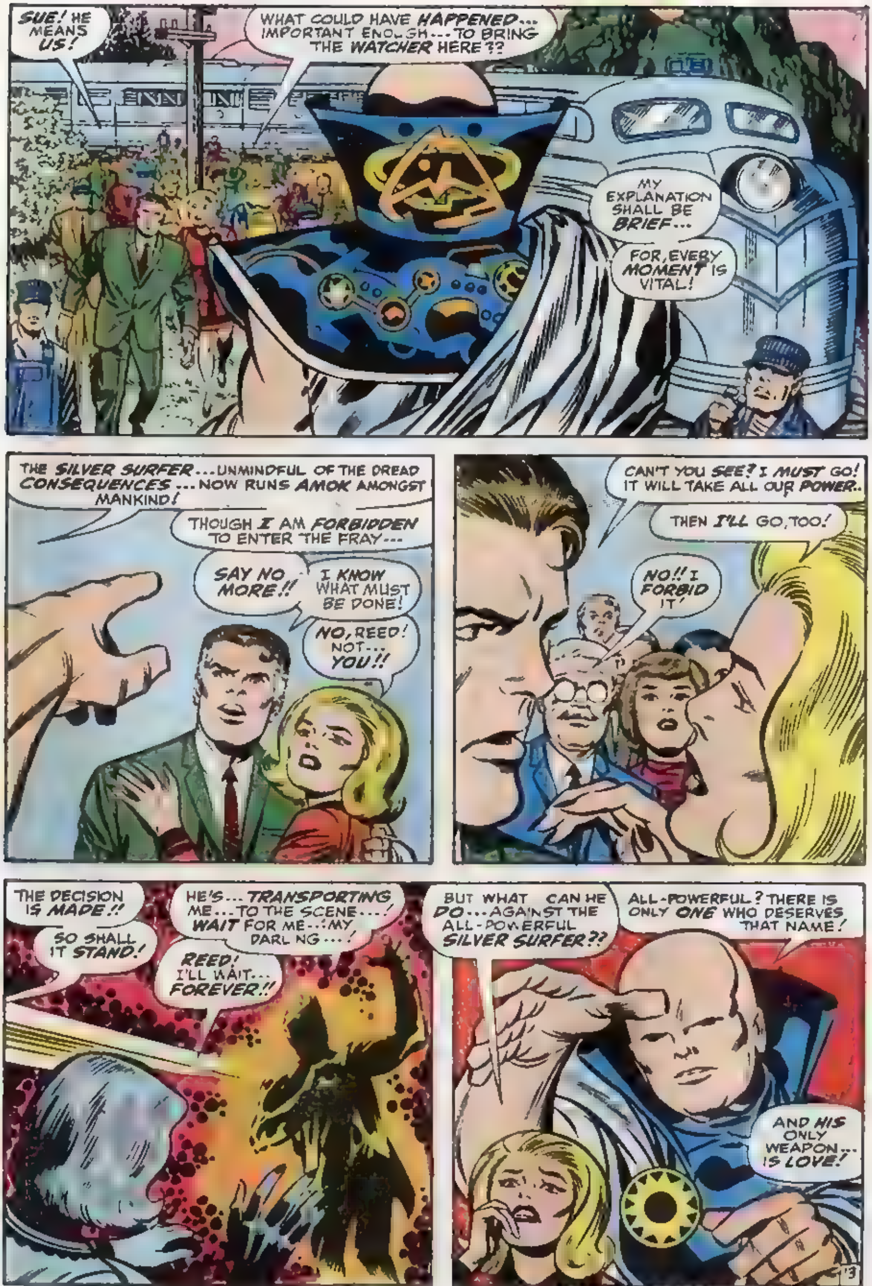
FULL PURCHASE PRICE OF $1.00 REFUNDED WITH FIRST ORDER OF $10.00 OR MORE


THOUGH HE MANAGED TO BURN HIS WAY THRU...
IT WEAKENED HIM---AS I KNEW IT MUST!
AND NOW...I SHALL QUICKLY COUNTERATTACK!..
...EMPLOYING HIS OWN MIGHTY WEAPON AGAINST HIM!
THEN, MOVING AT A SPEED WHICH THE FLAMING YOUTH CANNOT EVEN HOPE TO MATCH, THE SILVER SURFER MAKES AN INCREDIBLE TRAP OF COSMIC TORCHES ATOP THE SURROUNDING SKYSCRAPERS ---!
HE'S---HEMMING ME IN...
WITH TOWERS OF...COSMIC FORCE!!
THEY'RE GROWING IN INTENSITY...CLOSING IN ON ME!
THE ENERGY IS BLINDING... DAZZLING...
I...DON'T KNOW ...WHICH WAY TO TURN...!!
BUT, SUDDENLY...
OKAY, CHARLIE...
NOW LET'S SEE HOW YA DO AGAINST SOMEONE YER OWN SIZE!!
9


AND, BEFORE THE STARTLED SURFER CAN MAKE ANOTHER MOVE ---
I GOTTA PUT 'IM OUTTA ACTION FAST...
BEFORE HE CAN TOSS ONE OF THEM CRUMMY BOLTS AT ME!
HOLD STILL, BLAST YA!!
A FELLA CAN GIT AIR SICK THE WAY YER WIGGLIN' AROUND UP HERE!
BUT, BEFORE THE ORANGE-SKINNED HUMAN POWERHOUSE CAN LAND A TELLING BLOW, HIS STAR-SPAWNED OPPONENT JABS HIM WITH A PAIR OF TWIN, STINGING ENERGY WAVES..!
THE SILVER SURFER IS NOT SO EASILY BESTED!
NOR DOES YOUR BESTIAL STRENGTH IMPRESS ONE WHO HAS BEEN HERALD TO... GALACTUS!
FOR, I TOO POSSESS MIGHT BEYOND MEASURE!
=UNHHH!=
10


IN THE TIME I HAVE SPENT UPON THIS PLANET OF MADNESS...
I HAVE LEARNED TO BATTLE AS HUMANS BATTLE!!
AND NOW, AS A TOKEN OF MY RESPECT FOR YOUR VALOR... I SHALL PLACE YOU SAFELY UPON THE GROUND BELOW!
OKAY, BIG MAN.. BUT, BEFORE YA DO...
HERE'S A LITTLE FERGET-ME-NOT FROM ME TO YOU..!!
I GOTTA KEEP POUNDIN' AWAY!! ...I GOTTA!
IT'S... NO USE!
I GAVE 'IM ---ALL I GOT... BUT---HE'S STILL STANDIN'!!
LIKE ALL EARTH-LINGS, YOU STILL THINK ONLY MIGHT CAN PREVAIL!
BUT, YOU FORGET ONE UNIVERSAL FACT--!
11

NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL ONE MAY BE ---
SOMEWHERE... SOMEHOW... THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE WHO IS HIS MASTER!
AND NOW... I HAVE TIRED OF THIS GAME!!
AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE SPEEDING TRANSCONTINENTAL EXPRESS ---
BILL! UP AHEAD!.!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN IS THAT?
IT LOOKS LIKE A--- A---
NO! IT CAN'T BE! IT ISN'T POSSIBLE!
IT IS! IT'S SOME KINDA MAN... STANDING ON THE TRACKS... RIGHT AHEAD OF US!
BUT... LOOK AT THE SIZE OF HIM!!
WE'RE GONNA HIT 'IM! WE'LL NEVER STOP IN TIME!!
NO!! HE JUST... WAVED HIS HAND... AND LOOK...!
WE STOPPED... WITHOUT EVEN A LURCH...
LIKE FLOATING ON A CLOUD!!
DO NOT FEAR! I MEAN NO HARM!
THERE ARE TWO PASSENGERS UPON YOUR MULTI-WHEELED CONVEYANCE...
I WISH TO SPEAK TO THEM... AT ONCE!
12



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NEW
FROM THE
Mothers
of iNveNtion
WERE ONLY IN IT FOR THE
MONEY
V/V65045X
NAME
AGE
ADDRESS
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STATE
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☐ NO
HOW?
WHEN?
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FREAK OUT!
& ABSOLUTELY FREEEEEE
THRILLING L.P.S I'M SURE YOU WILL WANT TO OWN BOYS AND GIRLS!
THRILLING CLEAN FUN!
CLEANS YOU!
THRILLS YOU!
CLEANS & THRILLS YOU!
EXPENSIVE
FUN
YOU MUST BUY ALL OF THESE PRODUCTS NOW!
*NOTE
NT &B ©1967
Verve
a division
FILL OUT THIS COUPON OR WRITE US A LETTER AND MAIL IT TODAY IN A ENVELOPE.

BUT, LOVE IS THE LAST THING ON ANYONE'S MIND AT THIS PARTICULAR MOMENT! AND, IF YOU THINK WE'RE KIDDING...
WHAT'S THAT?? ORDERS FROM THE PENTAGON?!
WE'RE TO USE THE SONIC SHARK* AGAINST THE SURFER?
YOU BET! SHE'S FULLY-OPERATIONAL NOW!
CLEAR THE AREA... ON THE DOUBLE!
* SONIC SHARK: AN EXPERIMENTAL MISSILE WHICH HARNESSES AND UNLEASHES THE POWER OF COSMIC ENERGY!! ...PSEUDO-SCIENTIFIC STAN.
GENERAL!! BY YOUR LEAVE, SIR.. THE SONIC SHARK IS STILL UNTESTED!
WITH ALL ITS POWER... IF SOMETHING SHOULD GO WRONG..!!
IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT MIGHT STOP THE SURFER!!
YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN! CARRY THEM OUT!!
YES, SIR!
BEGIN THE COUNT-DOWN!!
NO MATTER WHERE THE SURFER IS...
OUR BIRD'LL FIND HIM... AND BRING 'IM DOWN!
AND, SPEAKING OF THE MOST FABULOUSLY FASCINATING CHARACTER IN MODERN ADVENTUREDOM...
I HAVE CHOSEN A DESPERATE MEASURE TO BRING MANKIND TO ITS SENSES...!
FOR, IN TRUTH, THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
SO ANXIOUS IS HE TO REACH OUR NATION'S CAPITOL, THAT HE BLASTS A PATH THRU ANYTHING THAT STANDS IN HIS WAY... EVEN IF IT HAPPENS TO BE A MOUNTAIN PEAK..!

BUT, WE SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING! OH, YES... THAT'S RIGHT... REED RICHARDS...
HE DID IT!
THE WATCHER TELEPORTED ME BACK TO THE ROOF OF A MIDTOWN BUILDING!!
BUT, WHO IS--OH! JOHNNY!
WHAT IS IT, BOY? WHAT HAPPENED??
OHHH... MY HEAD!
IT WAS THE SILVER SURFER!! HE PULVERIZED ME WITH SOME COSMIC BOLTS!
BUT... REED! WAIT A MINUTE! HOW'D YOU GET BACK HERE?
THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT, LAD!
WHAT I HAVE TO KNOW IS... WHERE'S THE SURFER NOW??
I'M NOT SURE! I LOST HIM!
BUT... WHAT HAPPENED TO BEN??
HE WAS RIGHT WITH ME!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT...
WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE SURFER!
LUCKILY, WE'RE ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY FROM OUR BAXTER BUILDING HEADQUARTERS!
SO FLAME ON, PARTNER!
THWIP!
...AND AWAAAAAAY WE GO!!
15

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SHOP BY MAIL

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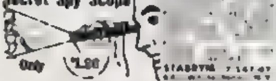
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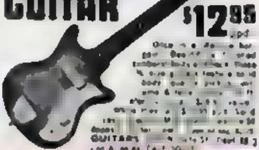

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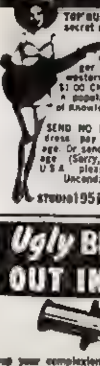

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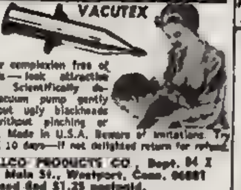

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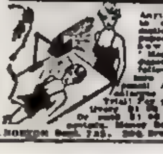
DRAW The First Day!



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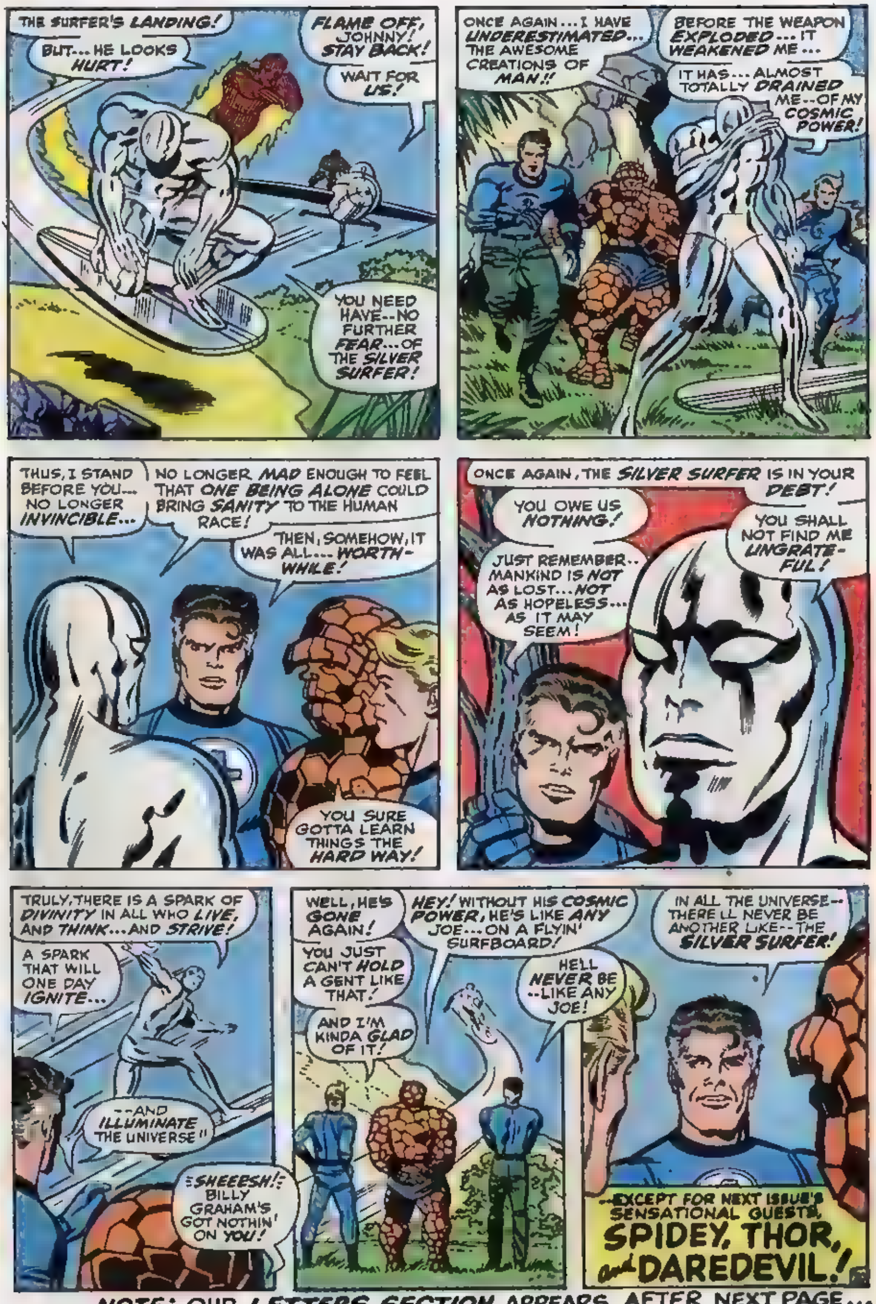
HE MUST BE IN ONE BIG HURRY!
HE'S FIXIN' TA GRAB ME WITH THAT NUTTY SKY HOOK..!
HANG ON, BEN! WE'VE NO TIME TO SLOW DOWN!
YEAH! YEAH! I KINDA NOTICED!
DIDJA FIND THE SURF.. HEY!
HOLD IT! WHERE'S THE TORCH??
HE FLEW ON AHEAD... TO SAVE TIME!
NOW SIT TIGHT... I'M SHIFTING TO ROCKET SPEED!
BUT, EVEN AS REED RICHARDS SPEAKS...
THE DEADLY SONIC SHARK IS LAUNCHED!!
AND, AS IT UNERRINGLY HOMES IN ON ITS SPEEDING, STREAKING, SKY-RIDING VICTIM...
THE SURFER'S JUST AHEAD!!
I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING... NOW!!
17

HE'S NOT EVEN AWARE OF THE MISSILE!
IF I CAN JAR HIM WITH A BOLT OF FLAME, IT'LL... THAT'S IT!
HE SPUN AROUND! HE SEES IT!
BUT, IT'S TOO FAST FOR HIM..!
HE CAN'T OUT-DISTANCE IT!
AND IF HE TRIES TO DESTROY IT...
IT'LL FINISH HIM!
THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE..!
IF I CAN DISABLE THE ENGINE... WITHOUT CAUSING A COSMIC FEED-BACK!
UNHHH!
I..I FAILED!!
IT'S IMPERVIOUS.. TO HEAT..!
IT CONTAINS... ITS OWN DEFENSES!!

NOW IT'S FIRING AN ENERGY DRAINER AT THE SURFER!
HE'LL GET WEAKER-- AND WEAKER.. UNTIL...!
THAT NOISE! IT'S..
THE POGO PLANE!
IT'S REED... AND BEN!!
BUT...WHAT CAN THEY DO?
WHAT NOW, BIG BRAIN??
THIS FLYIN' KIDDIE CAR AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' ABOARD CAN STOP THAT GIZMO!
NEGATIVE, BENJAMIN!!
WE'VE ONE WEAPON THAT'S NEVER FAILED US YET...
YOUR OWN NATURAL STRENGTH!!
YER PUTTIN' ME ON, MISTER!
THEN, SCANT SECONDS LATER...
Y'MEAN---I'M JUST SUPPOSED TA BELT IT ONE??
RIGHT! YOU HAVE TO MAKE IT SWERVE OFF-COURSE!
BUT... IT'S SET TA EXPLODE..
ANY SECOND!
THAT'S THE CHANCE WE TAKE!!
DON'T MISS... THIS IS IT!!
YOU DID IT!
IT EXPLODED HARM-LESSLY!
YOU DROVE IT INTO THE STRATOSPHERE BEFORE IT COULD RIGHT ITSELF!
THE SURFER IS SAFE!



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You don't have to attend either of my 2 schools where I train men like you and turn them into KARATE experts. Now I can show you how to practice KARATE in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I have jam-packed all I know about KARATE into "SUPER KARATE"—profusely illustrated and clearly explained.

In this book I take you step by step through the fundamentals of KARATE so that you understand clearly and immediately how these amazing principles operate to make you master of ANYONE you may meet—no matter how big he is, or how much he weighs!

YOUR BODY IS YOUR PROTECTION!

The result of hundreds of years of development in Japan, KARATE is the Oriental system of self-defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into incredibly powerful weapons of attack. When you know how to use KARATE, you disarm and disable your opponent in SECONDS.

When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can toss an attacker from the rear over your shoulder and slam him into the ground. (In fact, a recent photograph in Pageant Magazine shows a 115-lb. girl slamming her 240-lb. instructor into the practice mat!)

With KARATE you can disarm an opponent rushing you with his fists, a broken bottle, a revolver, or any kind of bludgeon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only your bare hands, your arms and your legs.

MASTER EVERY SITUATION

With KARATE you can disarm and disable two, three and even four attackers. You can apply a simple pressure of your thumb and finger against any one of a dozen vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and [illegible].

In fact, a knowledge of KARATE will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! For you will become self-assured and completely confident of yourself and your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a determined and confident step . . . you'll look any man in the eye . . . and you'll walk the streets with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you—that you can deal with any man, any weapon, any situation—and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact!

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You owe it to your own peace of mind—to your loved ones—to be able to defend yourself in these days when attack may come at any time from hoodlums, criminals and "wise guys." So mail coupon NOW for my complete instruction on KARATE—for the amazingly low price of only 99¢ plus 29¢ for postage and handling. If you and your friends don't think KARATE has made a new man out of you, every cent will be refunded!

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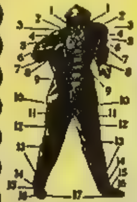

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NAME ....
ADDRESS ....
CITY .... ZONE .... STATE ....

☐ I understand that by studying KARATE I am morally bound and obligated never to practice KARATE as an aggressor (only to defend myself) and will never abuse it.

MORE BATTY BULLETINS TO BEWILDER, BEWITCH, AND BEDAZZLE THEE!

ITEM! We won't keep you in suspense a second longer! Here it is — our very next title of Marveldom for you to memorize and cherish fore'er! But first, let's once again summarize the first three we bestowed upon you. We started with RFO (Real Frantic One), to be used by those who buy three or more Marvel mags a month. Then, we added QNS (Quite 'Nuff Sayer), munificent moniker for those gifted ones who've had one or more letters published within the confines of our imperishable letters pages. Last ish we revealed to a breathlessly waiting world that TTB (Titanic True Believer), was the long-sought-after cognomen for anyone who has ever won a practically priceless No-Prize! And now — prepare thyself for the fabulous fourth rank of Marveldom Assembled — three letters which are destined to shake the literary world to its very core — three letters which shall soon be part and parcel of eternal Americana—three letters which, for sheer drama and stark simplicity have no possible peer — in short, the lustrous letters KOF (Keeper of the Flame), to be claimed with pride by any Marvel madman, anywhere in the free world, who successfully recruits a new disciple into the riotous ranks of Marveldom! Now, whilst you bow your head in silent reverie, we shall take this occasion to reveal next month's three letters — P.M.M. — the highest rank of all — whose deep, dramatic meaning shall be revealed to thee on this page next ish! And now, on to other matters, before we become too emotional —

ITEM! Here's another in our continuing series of newsworthy tidbits which you can very easily live without. Didja know that our mixed-up Marvel mags are actually reprinted in eight different languages thruout the globe? And as soon as we learn how to translate into cosmic Kree (in-joke for FF and Capt. Marvel buffs!), we'll be making that NINE languages!

ITEM: Oh, speaking of our worldwide Marvel beachheads, we wanna explain something that's been bothering our brain-blasting British boosters. Those of you who've been following our yarns in the famous publications printed by England's Odham's Press have been worried that they'll be replacing our own tintinnabulatin' titles. Well, perish the thought, Precious One! The Odham's weeklies are simply REPRINTING our older classics (and doing a great job of it, too!) — but all the newest maniacal masterpieces we turn out will be on sale in Great Britain, same as ever, just as fast as we can ship 'em over! There now — is there anybody we haven't confused?

ITEM: We recently received a letter which we thought might interest you — so, here 'tis:

Dear Stan,

Operation Mailcall Viet Nam is a service by the American Government which gives people a chance to write to members of the American Armed Forces who are overseas. It's a chance to let them know that they're not alone — and that someone's thinking of them. It's a great service, and I believe that many other Marvel Madmen would be glad to correspond with someone overseas. In my first letter I just told a bit about myself as an introduction — my age, hobbies, etc. The letters should be in unsealed, unstamped envelopes and placed within another sealed, stamped envelope which is addressed to OPERATION MAILCALL VIET NAM, BOX 2602, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013.

Yours truly,
Bill Reed, Craiglee Dr.
Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

Many thanks for the info, Billy—and we're passing it along as you suggested. We also want to mention one additional fact. Many of our politically aware readers have divergent opinions about the Viet Nam war — as do the Bullpeners themselves. This notice is not intended as an endorsement on our part of any specific policy regarding the war. We simply feel that many American boys have been sent into battle far from home — and anything we can do to make 'em feel that they're not forgotten is surely a worthwhile deed which transcends mere politics. 'Nuff said?

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

You've probably already noticed the way we've changed our cover mastheads on ASTONISH, SUSPENSE, and STRANGE TALES ... featuring the name of each alternate character in turn, every other month. But that's only the beginning! 1968 will go down in comicdom history as the year of the big changes in the wonderful world of Marvel! We've got new titles that will soon be taking you by storm — and new features that'll make you realize the ol' House of Ideas is more daring than ever! In fact, we have one new mag now on the drawing board that's so dramatically different in concept, we confidently predict it will actually usher in the SECOND Marvel Age of Comics — an era even greater, even more glorious than ever before! So stay with us, fellow stalwarts — the best is just ahead! Remember — every wondrous winner has your name on it, and we kid thee not! Anyway, whatever you do—wherever you go—THINK MARVEL! It only hurts when you laugh!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

NOT BRAND ECHH #6: This is your last chance to latch onto the nuttiest issue of all! See what happens when LUV hits Spidey-Man, the Human Scorch, and Dr. Deranged! Chock full of goofy gags and way-out, wild guest stars, it's the funniest thing since Macbeth! Don't yechh — read Brechh!

MARVEL TALES #13: Spidey, Thor, Giant-Man, and — latch onto your seat belts — from out of the glorious golden age ... Marvel Boy, one of the most dramatically different super heroes ever! The House of Ideas has done it again!

SPIDER-MAN #58: Jonah Jameson finally puts an end to Spidey's career — and his life, as well! Or, so he thinks! It's called "To Kill A Spider-Man!" It features one of the most deadly foes of all! And it's not to be missed!

AVENGERS #49: Magneto at the United Nations? Wanda and Pietro reverting to evil mutants? And the mighty Avengers battling against their old comrades? The answer is yes on all counts — and adventuredom will never be the same again!

X-MEN #41: How do you fight a super-powered foe whose one overwhelming desire is to destroy the entire earth — and himself along with it? That's what our marvelous mutants must find out, and fast, when they battle the one and only . . . Grotesk!

DAREDEVIL #37: Sometimes a story's so great that there's no satisfactory way to describe it! All we can say about this one is — DD battles Dr. Doom like a man possessed—and you'll gape at the most frightening last page you've ever thrilled to! Howzat?

CAPTAIN MARVEL, starring in MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #13: A new weapon . . . a new life . . . and a mind-staggering menace that threatens to be not only Captain Marvel's first challenge — but also his last! For, at long last — the Sentry lives again!

THOR #149: Even a Thunder God can't win 'em all — especially when his frightful foe is the triumphant Wrecker! If you've ever wondered what happens when a super-hero is out-fought, this one's for you!

SUSPENSE #99: Whiplash! The Maggia! Jasper Sitwell! And . . . what's his name? Oh yeah, Iron Man, too! The biggest star-studded action-epic since "Gone With The Wind!" As for our star-spangled Avenger, together with the Black Panther, Cap finds himself pitted against Zemo, the fiend who cannot exist!

ASTONISH #101: Possibly the greatest Hulk tale you've ever read! See what happens when the giant rampager finds himself in Asgard, pitted against the might of the Immortals themselves! Meanwhile, Subby battles for his life against a startling new super-villain near the site of the original Atlantis! This one's a blockbuster!

STRANGE TALES #166: Talk about cataclysmic climax issues — this one tops 'em all! Nick Fury and the Yellow Claw square off for a final, deadly fight to the finish — while Doc Strange goes into the last round of his epic encounter with Yandroth! You dare not miss it!

SGT. FURY #51: The Howlers crash land behind enemy lines — but that's not about to stop them from rescuing one of the most vitally important men in the free world! Oh, and guess who's with 'em? None other than Happy Sam Sawyer himself! Wah-Hoo!

CAPTAIN SAVAGE #1: The power-packed premiere of a pulse-pounding new battle-mag bombshell — in the great SGT. FURY tradition! It's destined to become a contemporary combat classic!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #13: What would you do if you suddenly spotted a Marvel mag with the FF, Iron Man, the Hulk, Dr. Strange, and the Watcher, all in one ish? Snap it up, natch!

Let's meet 20 more M.M.M.S. members!

Steve Turner, Winter Haven, Fla.
Karl Tederous, Dunkirk, N. Y.
Glen Russo, Portland, Ore.
Melvin Rhodes, Lincolnshire, Eng.
Johnathon Traurig, Plainview, N. Y.
Barry Rickert, Danbury, Conn.
Blake Roper, Canton, Ga.
Steve Ryan, Old Bridge, N. J.
Kevin Ryerson, Sandusky, Ohio
John Reed, Devon, Pa.
Biff Rogers, New York, N. Y.
Curtis Nee, Neptune, N. J.
Greg Thoran, Ithaca, N. Y.
Guy Vann, New York, N. Y.
Paul Taylor, Bedford, Mass.
Mark van Groll, Sheboygan, Wisc.
James Russ, Bridgeport, Conn.
John Uhrmacher, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Barbara Ulrich, Sioux City, Iowa
Jame Rudzynski, Fountain, Mich.
Greg Rooks, New York, N. Y.
Robert Taylor, Dounas, La.
John Shora, Rantoul, Ill.
Mary Oravec, Nanty Glo, Pa.
Steve Tamerius, Fairbury, Neb.
Mary Valkenburg, Seattle, Wash.

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CHECK SIZE
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Fantastic Four Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
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Dear Stan and Jack,

In your recent magazines you asked for shorter letters, but I have to say this and it will be longer than usual. First, whatever happened to the phrase — the Marvel Age of Comics? It seems a long time since I last heard that time-honored adage. Since I started reading Marvels, over three years ago, there have been 1,000,001 changes. Remember when Stan Lee, 2 letterers, 4 inkers, and 5 artists turned out the best literature money could buy? Remember when you could pick up an F.F. and see Reed slaving over a test tube to change the Thing back to Ben Grimm? Remember when Spidey could hit a crook with one punch and knock him out instead of having to hit him with a door? Remember when Dr. Strange was Dr. Strange instead of a second-class Gandalf? Those were the days — no Mr. Fantastic erasers or Invisible Girl pajamas, just pure down-to-earth-wonderfully-titled-no-outer-space-stories Marvel Comics. I may seem a bit nostalgic, but now, when you can walk up to any six-year-old in town and have him explain why the negative zone is a swinging place, it makes me want to cry. Three years ago nobody under an exceptionally bright ten-year-old could even understand why the Thing had rocks on his head. In short, Marvel was organized 5 years ago, reached its peak 2½ years ago, and as of 1½ years ago has been steadily declining. In past letters pages you could find constructive criticism instead of whatever-you-do-I'm-with-you-all-the-way-o-mighty-one. While your sales have been skyrocketing and products mounting, your old fans will probably just sit around and talk about the good old days. I did not mean for this letter to criticize anyone, but, as I said, I had to speak out. I have forgotten my MMMS number, but I wish you would take my name off your list. I wanted this letter to end on a pleasant note. While I have given up your superhero line, I will continue to buy your new smash hit — NOT BRAND ECHH. Thank you for your time and effort.

Paul Manly, 7 Shawnee Lane
Dover, N. H. 03820

And our thanks to you, Paul, for sounding off! We may not agree with everything you wrote; but, like the man says, we'll defend your right to say it to the death! (Though, if your agonizin' analysis is correct, mighty Marvel hasn't long left to live, anyway!) Naturally, we kinda think we've improved, at least in many ways, since the "good old days" that you mention — but, after all, that's for you tigers to judge, not us! So, how about it, faithful ones? Does Marveldom Assembled truly believe that our multiloquent mags have reached their zenith and have started to decline? Or do you feel the same way *we do* — that there was never as great a variety of story and art as there is today, and that the best is yet to come? Let us hear from you, our real bosses — okay? Okay!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Congratulations to the both of you for the greatest Marvel plot development yet, but most of all, to the proud parents-to-be, Reed and Sue Richards. Of course, I refer to pages 13 and 14 of the lead story in the never-to-be-forgotten F.F. SPECIAL #5. Somehow, with all the great action-art, with all the too-good-to-be-true special features, despite the introduction of the palpitatingly precocious Psycho Man and Co., as well as the return of quixotic Quasimodo, for all the great guest stars — Reed's announcement was the development that stole the whole swinging show! The subtle foreshadowing, the sheer drama of Richards simple revelation, and the reactions of all concerned (especially Ben) couldn't have been handled better. And yet, it was merely another link in a chain of logical events — engagement, marriage, children — so why am I so worked up at the news? Maybe it's just because I've known your characters so long and so well that I've begun to think of them as real people, people whose every tragedy and triumph are of interest to me. But this should raise some interesting problems once Reed's through handing out the cigars. Stan, it looks like you'll have to bone up on your Dr. Spock before long, as well as Mendel's treatise on heredity. Oh, well... Since any further plaudits or constructive criticisms escape me at the moment, I'll just wish *beaucoup de bonheur* to you guys, as well as to the Richardses and their future... son? daughter? offspring? Whatever you do, guys, hold on to the *joie de vivre* that you have displayed in your work!

William Womack, 6209 Twilight Lane
El Paso, Tex. 79912

And a *pâté de fois gras* to you, Bill. As for the hereditary factors involved in the child-to-be of Mr. and Mrs. Fantastic, we're not quite sure just what reference books Stan and Jack will use to assure that everything is scientifically plausible, but we're certain that — er, uh, we're afraid we'll have to take that back, *friend* Womack! We just looked in on Smiley and the King — and they were sitting around yokking it up over *Five Little Peppers and How They Grew!* In short, don't make any bets on *what* will arrive on the day of that blessed event; that's the only way you can't possibly go wrong!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Nice try, fellas — but try again. The F.F. SPECIAL stunk. Face it! The title for one thing — four members? Why not call it the Tacky Two? The Torch and the Thing were particularly drab this time out, and I wish you would decide whether Ben is going to have three fingers or four. I liked him at the beginning with three because it made him look more monstrous. Then when you finally changed him to four and, when I finally got used to it, you changed him back to three. After searching for awhile I finally found the plot, but it looked more to me like all you wanted was to stick as many super-powered clods into one story as you could. And the only good thing about your villain was his appearance. I won't say much about the mistakes in dialogue; I'm sure you'll hear plenty about that. In other words, is Stan writing his stories over dinner again? Jack did his job very well and Stan G's coloring was the best yet. But Joe Sinnott's inking — echh! Has he taken to wearing gloves while working? The best things in the magazine were the pinups and the announcement of the baby. I hope this doesn't mean Reed is going to bow out of the majority of fights. How did Alicia get so beautiful? I think I've fallen in love with the girl in panel 2 on page 2 of the Surfer story. "Face Front" from one of your greatest fans — Frodo lives!

Stephen Blevins, 6928 Shepherd St.
Hyattsville, Md. 20784

Maybe that halcyon *hobbit* does, Stevey-o; but after some of your comments on this year's Special, we're not too sure about your teary-eyed *Bullpen!* In particular, joltin' Joe Sinnott was kind'a depressed, 'cause he didn't really ink that ish at all! (Yep — charge that inking credit up to another mighty Marvel boo-boo! But, if you think we're gonna repeat who *did* the inking — forget it! One embittered embellisher per month is enough, already!) And by the way, ol' Stan wants to inform you that he actually wrote that whole story *over brunch*, not dinner! *Nyaaah!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

It finally happened! You've brought your mightiest cre-

Now hear this! Please keep all letters no longer than ONE PAGE! Have mercy, mellow ones!

ation, the Fantastic Four, to the TV screen. The show was really great, and the best one I've seen in quite a while that had superheroes in it. The art was great, as well as the story, and I think the show brings out the F.F. better than in the mag. It also makes them seem more realistic. Now don't think I hate the mag because of the show, because I don't. I just like the show because it shows the F.F. the way most followers of Marvel Madness like them. But I've got to tell you, out of all your mags, I like the F.F. best. So please keep up the good work, and remember —think Marvel! Michael Hershey, 436 Charles Rd. Lancaster, Pa.

What else *can* we think, Mike? We never figured our own TV show would be competition for our mighty Marvel mags! Talk about your stabs in the back—looks like we managed to reach around and do it to *ourselves!* Well, at least your preferences still swing in the Marvel generation! We don't think we could stand it if you preferred some *other* superhero show to our superlative sagas. At least it's all in the family! We'll just have to console ourselves with the possibility that you are one of those fans who would rather watch television than read. But, confidentially, we hope you'll find the time and energy to do *both!*

Dear Stan and Jack,

As you probably have found out by now, many of your fans identify greatly with Ben Grimm. Now tell me, does Sue Richards trip other women in the streets because she envies their clothes and their normal home life? Does Reed zap guys walking by the Baxter Building because he is disgruntled because he's so square that nobody understands him when he talks? Does Johnny Storm ever really let his powers go to his head as any real teenager would? No! Then why do you go to such great lengths to show what a great guy Ben Grimm is—and have him run amok every few issues? What are you guys, phony liberals or something? Why must Ben always be the one to blow his stack just because he is so strong and not what one would consider conventionally handsome? It's a great gimmick, but it bugs me greatly every time you do it. I think it's about time for Ben to adjust to his condition just as Sue, Reed, and Johnny have adjusted to theirs. Look, Alicia knows about Ben's condition by now if she's ever touched him at all, right? Reed should pound that thought through his head—if you can ever get the F.F. out of that fine mess you got them into in #68!

Sanford Meschkow, 42-58 79th St.
Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373

Whattya mean *if*, Sannie? Of *course* we'll get 'em outta that mess, it's just a matter of *how!* But to get to the problem at hand—how can you say that Reed and Sue should react like Ben? They're happily married. Whatever else is missing, like a normal life (whatever *that* is!) or an absence of understanding hippies, they've got each other—and that makes up for a lot! And Johnny Storm has Crystal. Besides, we seem to remember him needlessly showing off on more than *one* occasion! To say that the Thing is "not . . . conventionally handsome" is the understatement of the week! Who can blame him for being so hung up about it? We want Mr. Grimm to have some peace of mind as much as you do, tiger, but he's always been the *impatient* type. That's just the way he is—and we sorta like him that way!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Recently I've been making some high-flying statements to defend both Marveldom and my enjoyment of your illustrious ishes. There are, you must try to understand, some blasphemers who unwittingly confuse Marvels with the flood of pedestrian publications attempting to look similar to Marvels. I have told the infidels that Marvels have the others outclassed in artwork, script-writing, and character portrayal. I attempt to show the unenlightened that there are poignant and valuable insights to be savored within the sacrosanct sheets. Marvels, I insist to them, have deserted the trite plot devices used in other comics and are spiced with fresh humor and honest-to-goodness realism. F.F. #68 was a superb testimony to the fact that Marvel is superb. Every page was brilliant and the climactic ending sent me running for cover. I have one minor observation to make concerning Ben Grimm's consternation at having to remain the Thing. On page 2 he says, "What happens when she finds out why I'm called . . . the Thing?!!" This happens to be an exact switch from F.F. #25 when the Thing smashed a test tube Reed prepared to change the Thing back to Ben. At that time the Thing said, "Alicia loves me this way . . . how do I know how she'll feel about me if I became just plain Ben Grimm??" For my edification, please explain in which personality Benjamin is happy. Yours till Marvelites can all afford to be subscribers!

Keith Beavon, 135 Via di Roma Walk
Long Beach, Cal.

Or until all *subscribers* can afford to be *Marvelites!* (There! That oughtta make you feel about as confused as *Ben* is, Keith!) You think you have trouble understanding his situation, you should hear *him* explain it sometime! In short, he's not sure *what* he wants! Either way he's afraid he'll lose out—so he's torn between remaining the Thing or trying to reassume his former identity. To tell you the truth, it kinda tears *us* up, too!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Upon finishing the latest F.F. SPECIAL #5, I felt it was necessary to write you about it. First, I feel it was an excellent work of art and literature. Second, it is my fondest wish that you continue to make Specials with new stories as in this one. Third, I'm exceedingly happy that Silver Surfer had his own story. Lastly, I'm quite surprised at Reed's announcement. I would like to say this about the baby: According to the laws of Mendel, the offspring will be unable to inherit any amazing powers, which I don't mind very much. Yet a friend of mine disagrees with me entirely. He feels that the cosmic radiation should have affected the genes and chromosomes, thereby causing their powers to become inherited by the offspring. Thank you, and E Pluribus Marvel!

Sid Slivke, 406 Wolf St.
Phila., Pa. 19148

***Et tu, Slivke?* We *thought* that the little bombshell Reed casually dropped in the conversation would shake up a few zillion of you frenzied ones! Now, to solve the dilemma of a baby with or without super-powers, we will quote from Irving Forbush's latest bestseller, *Superhero Genetics and You.* Our bombastic biologist writes, "Although, under normal conditions, the offspring will bear only those characteristics contained in the dominant or recessive genes of the parents, an alteration sometimes occurs in the gene structure that results in offspring with characteristics unlike those of either parents. This process is called *mutation.*" Although Dr. Forbush doesn't mention it, we suppose that the chromosomal makeup of Sue and Reed *could* have been changed by that cosmic radiation. So—you're right, and your friend's right, and of course there's always the third possibility that the baby will be a mutant with powers unlike *any* on this earth! Sheesh! The suspense is killing us!**

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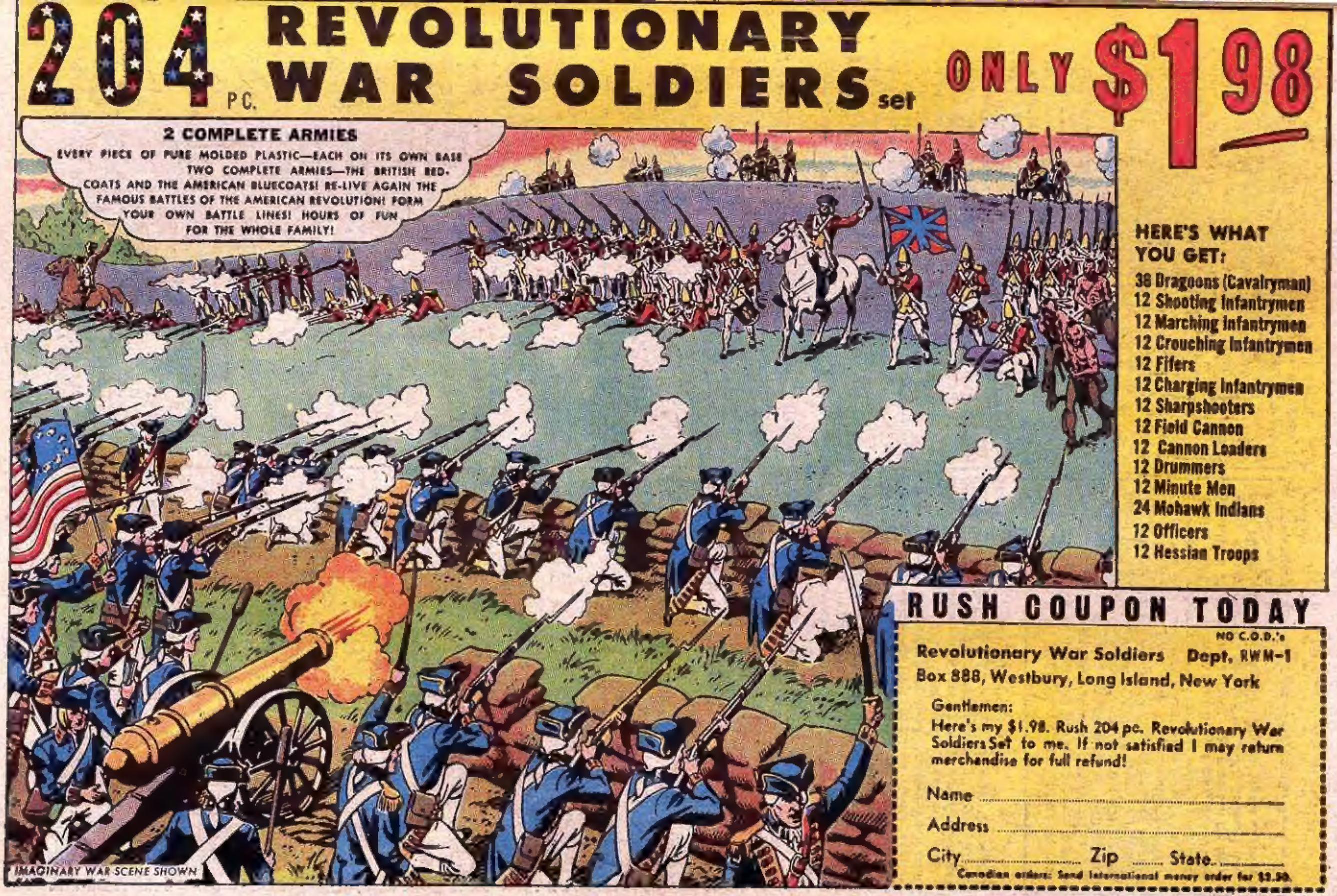

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